

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for making electronic information more readily available to an access
2 requestor based on an anticipated demand for the electronic information, the method
3 comprising:
4 anticipating future requests for access to selected electronic information that is stored
5 on a first storage medium;
6 accessing the selected electronic information stored on the first storage medium;
7 duplicating the selected electronic information on a second storage medium that is
8 more accessible to an access requestor than the first storage medium; and
9 providing the access requestor with access to the selected electronic information from
10 the second storage medium.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 determining whether the selected electronic information is accessible to the access
3 requestor from the second storage medium,
4 wherein the access requestor is provided with access to the selected electronic
5 information from the first storage medium only if the selected electronic information is not
6 accessible to the access requestor from the second storage medium.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the second storage medium is more geographically
2 proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium such that the duplicating
3 includes duplicating the selected electronic information on a medium that is more
4 geographically proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the second storage medium is more electronically
2 proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium such that the duplicating
3 includes duplicating the selected electronic information on a medium that is more
4 electronically proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the second storage medium provides faster
2 completion of an access request than the first storage medium such that the providing

3 includes providing faster access to the selected electronic information by the access
4 requestor.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first storage medium resides on a central server
2 and the second storage medium resides on a distributed server such that the duplicating
3 includes duplicating the selected electronic information from the central server to the
4 distributed server.

1 7. The method in claim 1 wherein the anticipating includes anticipating future requests
2 for access to the selected electronic information based on past requests for access to the same
3 or related electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 8. The method in claim 1 wherein the anticipating includes anticipating future requests
2 for access to the selected electronic information based on past requests for access to non-
3 related electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 9. The method in claim 1 wherein the anticipating includes anticipating future requests
2 for access to the selected electronic information based on past requests for access to related
3 non-electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 10. The method in claim 1 wherein the anticipating includes anticipating future requests
2 for access to the selected electronic information based on past requests for access to non-
3 related non-electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 11. The method in claim 1 wherein anticipating future requests for access to the selected
2 electronic information includes measuring a number of requests for the selected electronic
3 information for which access is requested, and comparing the number of requests to a
4 threshold.

1 12. The method in claim 1 wherein anticipating future requests for access to electronic
2 information includes measuring a frequency of requests for access to the selected electronic
3 information.

1 13. The method in claim 12 wherein anticipating future requests for access to the selected
2 electronic information further comprises:

3 determining the file size of the selected electronic information;
4 assigning a cache value to the selected electronic information based on the file size
5 and the frequency of requests for the selected electronic information; and
6 anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information based on
7 the cache value of the selected electronic information.

1 14. The method in claim 1 wherein future requests for the selected electronic information
2 are anticipated based on criteria unrelated to past access requests.

1 15. The method in claim 1 wherein anticipating future requests for access to the selected
2 electronic information is performed before an access request is made.

1 16. A system for making electronic information more readily available to an access
2 requestor based on anticipated demand for the electronic information, the system comprising:
3 an anticipating software module that anticipates future requests for access to selected
4 electronic information that is stored on a first storage medium;
5 an electronic information reader that accesses the selected electronic information
6 from within electronic information stored on the first storage medium;
7 an electronic information copier that duplicates the selected electronic information on
8 a second storage medium that is more accessible to an access requestor than the first storage
9 medium; and
10 an access providing software module that provides the access requestor with access to
11 the selected electronic information from the second storage medium.

1 17. The system of claim 16, further comprising:
2 determines whether the selected electronic information is accessible to the access
3 requestor from the second storage medium,
4 wherein the selected information on the first storage medium is accessed by the
5 electronic information reader and duplicated by the electronic information copier only if the

6 selected electronic information is not accessible to the access requestor from the second
7 storage medium.

1 18. The system of claim 16 wherein the second storage medium is more geographically
2 proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 19. The system of claim 16 wherein the second storage medium is more electronically
2 proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 20. The system of claim 16 wherein the second storage medium enables faster access
2 request completion by the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 21. The system of claim 16 wherein the first storage medium resides on a central server
2 and the second storage medium resides on a distributed server.

1 22. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged
2 for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information based on past
3 requests for access to the same or related electronic information by more than one access
4 requestor.

1 23. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged
2 for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information based on past
3 requests for access to non-related electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 24. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged
2 for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information based on past
3 requests for access to related non-electronic information by more than one access requestor.

1 25. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged
2 for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information based on past
3 requests for access to non-related non-electronic information by more than one access
4 requestor.

1 26. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged to
2 measure a frequency of requests for access to the selected electronic information.

1 27. The system of claim 26 wherein the anticipating module includes:
2 a determining module that determines the file size of the selected electronic
3 information;
4 an assigning module that assigns a cache value to the selected electronic information
5 based on the file size and the frequency of requests for the selected electronic information;
6 and
7 an anticipating module that anticipates future requests for access to the selected
8 electronic information based on the cache value of the selected electronic information.

1 28. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipating module is structured and arranged
2 such that future requests for the selected electronic information are anticipated based on
3 criteria unrelated to past access requests.

1 29. The system of claim 16 wherein the anticipated future requests for the selected
2 electronic information are performed before an access request is made.

1 30. A computer readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program for
2 processing by a computer, the computer program comprising:
3 a first code segment for anticipating future requests for access to selected electronic
4 information that is stored on a first storage medium;
5 a second code segment for accessing the selected electronic information from within
6 electronic information stored on the first storage medium;
7 a third code segment for duplicating the selected electronic information on a second
8 storage medium that is more accessible to an access requestor than the first storage medium;
9 and
10 a fourth code segment for providing the access requestor with access to the selected
11 electronic information from the second storage medium.

1 31. The computer readable medium of claim 30, further comprising:
2 a determining code segment for determining whether the selected electronic
3 information is accessible to the access requestor from the second storage medium,
4 wherein the selected electronic information on the first storage medium is accessed by
5 the second code segment and duplicated by the third code segment only if the selected
6 electronic information is not accessible to the access requestor from the second storage
7 medium.

1 32. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the second storage medium is more
2 geographically proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 33. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the second storage medium is more
2 electronically proximate to the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 34. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the second storage medium enables faster
2 access request completion by the access requestor than the first storage medium.

1 35. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first storage medium resides on a
2 central server and the second storage medium resides on a distributed server.

1 36. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information
3 based on past requests for access to the same or related electronic information by more than
4 one access requestor.

1 37. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information
3 based on past requests for access to non-related electronic information by more than one
4 access requestor.

1 38. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information
3 based on past requests for access to related non-electronic information by more than one
4 access requestor.

1 39. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged for anticipating future requests for access to the selected electronic information
3 based on past requests for access to non-related non-electronic information by more than one
4 access requestor.

1 40. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged to measure a frequency of requests for access to the selected electronic information.

1 41. The computer program of claim 40 wherein the first code segment further comprises:
2 a determining code segment that determines the file size of the selected electronic
3 information;
4 an assigning code segment that assigns a cache value to the selected electronic
5 information based on the file size and the frequency of requests for the selected electronic
6 information; and
7 an anticipating code segment that anticipates future requests for access to the selected
8 electronic information based on the cache value of the selected electronic information.

1 42. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the first code segment is structured and
2 arranged to measure a number of requests for access to the selected electronic information for
3 which access is requested and comparing the number of requests to a threshold.

1 43. The computer program of claim 30 wherein anticipating future requests for the
2 selected electronic information is based on criteria unrelated to past access requests.

1 44. The computer program of claim 30 wherein the anticipating is performed before an
2 access request is made.